

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00
OMB-01 ABF-01 ACDA-12 INR-10 L-03 EB-08 NRC-05
OES-07 SOE-02 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 DOEE-00
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 /152 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7055
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA, OCON, FR, BE
SUBJECT: JUNE MEETING OF IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS: AGENCY'S
BUDGET FOR 1979

REF: A) STATE 140643, B) STATE 141243

1. WE DISCUSSED IAEA 1979 BUDGET MORNING OF JUNE 5
WITH SIMONE HERPELS, DIRECTOR FOR NUCLEAR AFFAIRS IN
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
2. HERPELS CHARACTERIZED IAEA BUDGET REQUEST AS QUOTE
FANTASTIC EXAGGERATION UNQUOTE, WITH MUCH OF BUDGET
INCREASE DEDICATED TO SUMPTUOUS NEW QUARTERS. SHE
WAS PARTICULARLY EXERCISED AT AGENCY'S REQUEST FOR
FUNDS TO OBTAIN NEW COMPUTER FACILITIES TO REPLACE NEW
COMPUTER INSTALLED JUST LAST YEAR, WHICH SHE DESCRIBED
AS EXTREMELY POOR MANAGEMENT.

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3. HERPELS WAS ALSO UPSET AT ALLEGED SOVIET ABILITY
TO AVOID MAKING THEIR PROPER CONTRIBUTION TO AGENCY
BUDGET BY GETTING USSR CLASSIFIED AS A LESS-DEVELOPED
COUNTRY.
4. HERPELS NOTED THAT THOUGH OVERALL BUDGET INCREASE
REQUESTED BY IAEA WAS ON ORDER OF 38 PERCENT, BELGIUM'S

ASSESSMENT WOULD INCREASE BY CLOSE TO 50 PERCENT IF NEW BUDGET APPROVED. BELGIUM WOULD FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPORT INCREASE OF THIS MAGNITUDE IN ITS CONTRIBUTION TO IAEA AT TIME WHEN GOB IS SEARCHING DESPERATELY FOR WAYS TO REDUCE ITS BUDGETARY OUTLAYS.

5. WE TOLD HERPELS WE WOULD SEND HER TEXT OF TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTELS, BUT EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT THEY WILL HAVE MUCH EFFECT EITHER IN CHANGING VERY STRONG GOB OPPOSITION TO AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1979 OR IN MODIFYING ITS SUPPORT FOR FRENCH INITIATIVE LIMITING FUTURE INCREASES TO 15 PERCENT. DE TARR

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